**Foetal Development – Month 5**

At the end of the 5th month

* the baby measures 11-12 cm
* weighs 100g
* circulatory system and urinary tract are in full working order
* breathing amniotic fluid through lungs
* nerve cell and system production important as myelin starts to coat the nerve cells

**Foetal Development – Month 6**

At the end of the 6th month

* baby measures 16-27 cm
* *vernix caseosa* is a thick, waxy substance that covers the baby and protects its skin from the amniotic fluid
* senses are all developed
* in proportion to a newborn
* eyes fully formed, however iris colour still neutral
* tooth buds near gum line
* weighs 500 g

**Foetal Development – Month 7**

At the end of the 7th month

* network of nerves to the ear complete, sounds can become familiar to the baby at this stage
* weighs 875 g
* 30-37 cm in length
* Eyes start to open and close
* Baby will sleep and wake at regular intervals

**Foetal Development – Month 8**

At the end of 8th month

* Starts to store fatty tissue underneath the skin
* Head is getting bigger as the brain is developing very rapidly
* Growth length ways slows down as baby puts on weight
* Amniotic fluid is about 1lt however as baby grows this decreases to make room for the developing foetus
* Weigh 1.5kg
* Measure 41cm

**Foetal Development – Month 9**

At the end of the 9th month

* Lungs are developing and preparing for breathing air, however will not be fully formed until straight before birth
* Skull not fully fused and quite flexible in preparation for birth
* Starts to turn head down
* 35 weeks the baby is safe to deliver and have no major problems
* Bones hardening
* Extra body fat will help baby to regulate its temperature
* Weighs 2.4 kg
* Measures 45 cm
* Kidneys fully developed